if so, which flights and the loss as a result thereof; and

(e) the expenditure and its foreign exchange component incurred on hiring the substitute aircraft(s) for the travelling public?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) to (e) Detailed information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Financial assistance to Sanskrit schoolers

977. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amout of financial assistance granted to each of the eminent Sanskrit scholars aged 55 or above, under the scheme of "Development of Sanskrit Education";

(b) the number of such scholars and their names and addresses, Statewise; and

(c) whether enhancement of the present amount to them is under consideration of Government for sometime past; if so, by how much?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Under the scheme of "Development of Sanskrit Education" eminent Sanskrit scholars aged 55 or above and whose annual income is less than grant admissible are given Rs. 3,000/- per annum minus their personal income from other sources.

(b) There are about 1500 such scholars receiving this grant at present. A statement about their names addresses Statewise will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) A proposal for enhancement of the present amount to Rs. 4,000/- per annum is under consideration of the Ministry.

Construction of an Air-strip on Agati island in Lakshadweep

978. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost incurred in constructing an air-strip on Agati island in the Lakshadweep group before the Prime Minister's holiday there including the cost of about 4,000 metric tonnes of earth brought there all the way from Mangalore area because of barrenness of the island and the neighbouring ones; and

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the ships carrying earth got sank drowned in the sea, if so, what are the facts and the loss so incurred?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) An expenditure of Rs. 2.75 crores has been incurred upto December, 1987 on the construction of an airport at Agati Island in Lakshadweep.

(b) Yes, Sir. Three mechanised sailing vessels each carrying approximately 250 MTs of construction materials like stone aggregates, timber, cement and soil, got drowned at Mangalore off shore and near Agati Island due to highly adverse weather during November/December, 1987. Approximate cost of the materials lost is Rs. 7.00 lakhs. There is, however, no loss to the project since the entire transportation activity carries an insurance cover.

Expenditure incurred on reliance cup cricket

979. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated expenditure incurred by the Reliance Industries Ltd., Bombay, on the organisation of the recent Reliance Cup Cricket matches minus the spin-off profits from sponsorship;